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LYNTON
URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1958



Town Hall,
LYNTON,
North Devon.

Tel. Nos.
Lynton 3288,
Lynton 2204.

LYNTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of
The Lynton Urban District Council.

Mrs. Slater and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting herewith my ANNUAL
REPORT for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.	Dr. M.P. Nightingale, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. "Kneesworth", Lee Road, Lynton. Private Tel. No: 2204.
Chief Public Health Inspector:	Mr. T.J. Loveless, A.I.A.S., M.A.P.H.I. Town Hall, Lynton. Tel. No. Lynton 3288.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres	7,628.
Population (Reg.Gen.Mid-year Estimate) ..	1,710.
Number of inhabited houses	588.
Rateable Value	26,092.
Sum represented by a 1d Rate	109.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births: Legitimate: Males 6 : Females 9 :	15
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	8.77
Still births :	nil
Still birthrate per 1,000 live and still-births	nil
Total live and still births	15
Infant deaths	nil
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - total .	nil
	-legitimate nil
	-illegitimate nil
Neo Natal (first four weeks)	nil
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births..	nil
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births.	nil

DEATHS.

Residents	Males 3	Females 5	Total 8.
Non-residents	Males 1	Females 4	Total 5.

and of those deaths:-

1	had reached the age of 80 and upwards.
3	" " " " " 70 " "
2	" " " " " 65 " "

Deaths from :

Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	-
" " " Lung, Bronchus	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	1
Coronary Disease	1
Hypertension with heart disease	1
Other heart disease	4
Total	8

Notifiable Diseases.

Measles	2
Tuberculosis	1
Total	<u>3</u>

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

The Chest Clinic for this area is held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple.

Tuberculosis.

Treatment for tuberculosis is carried out at the Hawley Sanatorium in the Borough of Barnstaple and at Hawkmoor Sanatorium near Bovey Tracey.

Venereal Disease.

There were no reports of Venereal Disease. The nearest centre for treatment is at Barnstaple North Devon Infirmary and any cases that occur in this Urban District go direct to Barnstaple.

Ambulance Service.

The responsibility for the provision of an Ambulance Service is maintained by the County Council and the Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided by the St. John's Ambulance Association. The staff consists of one part-time and eight volunteer members. The vehicle is garaged at Cross Street, Lynton. The Hospital Car Service is available on application by the Doctor to the Hospital.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases.

The nearest Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases is at the Kingsley Hospital, Bideford.

Maternity.

There are two beds for maternity cases at the Lynton and District Cottage Hospital with a fully qualified staff available. At the North Devon Infirmary there is an additional ward available for cases of difficulty. During 1958 the hospital was obliged to close for seven days and was only open for emergencies ; this was due to the shortage of nursing staff. There is every indication that this unfortunate position will occur again in the future unless more staff become available and it will be necessary for all Maternity Cases normally dealt with at Lynton to be taken the 20 miles to Barnstaple Infirmary.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Care.

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are conducted at the Lynton Cottage Hospital by each General Practitioner in co-operation with the local Midwife and Hospital Staff.

Hospitals.

The following information has been supplied by the Lynton and District Cottage Hospital :-

Admissions	104
Outpatients	692
Outpatients attendance	931

Child Welfare.

The Infant Welfare Centre is held at the Jubilee Hall, Burvill Street, and is open on the first and third Wednesday in the month.

Home Helps Scheme.

The Home Nursing Service is carried out by one District Nurse in conjunction with nursing and midwifery duties. In addition, assistance in the home is given by one Home Help.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination and immunisation is carried out by the General Practitioners of the area & also at the Welfare Centre and School Clinics.

Laboratory Facilities.

Facilities are available for Bacteriological examinations of all kinds at the Public Health Laboratory, 7, Dix's Field, Exeter.

Water Supply.

This year saw the opening of the new intake, raw water reservoir and treatment works at Dean Steep on the West Ilkerton River by the North Devon Water Board. This entirely new supply to Lynton and Lynmouth was completed at an estimated cost of £62,000. The improved supply was most noticeable during the heavy rainfalls experienced in the summer when the usual discolouration was entirely absent.

The following samples of water have been taken from the main town and private supplies by the Council's Public Health Staff:-

North Devon Water Board Main Piped Supply:

4 samples all equivalent to a class one piped supply.

Private Supplies:- 5 samples all equivalent to a class one piped supply.

Swimming Pool.

Only one swimming pool is in operation in the Urban District this being under the Control of the Local Authority. The pool is situated on the Esplanade foreshore, Lynmouth, and is covered completely by each tide.

Public Cleansing.

The purchase of a new 10 cu. yd. covered refuse vehicle provided an improved and more hygienic refuse collection. The collection of and disposal of refuse both from household and trade premises was made weekly during the winter months and bi-weekly collections from the large houses during the holiday periods. Larger hotels and restaurants have received additional collections as necessary.

Rodent Control.

The refuse tip was frequently treated as in previous years with Warfarin and Zinc Phosphide and the results have been most satisfactory.

The number of complaints from private dwellings decreased but the number of inspections made and infestations found was slightly above average. All treatments and investigations were carried out by the Council's part-time operator.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food premises in the district:-

<u>Type</u>	<u>No.</u>
Bakehouses	1
Butcher's shops.....	4
Cafes and Restaurants	16
Confectioners	9
Dairies	1
Grocer's shops	8
Greengrocers	4
Fishmongers	1
Licensed Premises	10
Hotels and Boarding Houses	46
(unlicensed)	
Fish and Chip Shops	1

18 Food premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the sale of icecream.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-56.

73 visits were paid to food premises during the year and it was necessary in a number of cases to draw attention to the Food Hygiene Regulations and secure improvements. No formal action was necessary.

Summary of Meat Inspection.

Animals	Inspected	Condemned Carcases.	Condemned Portions	
			T.B.	Other causes.
Sheep .	73	-	-	3 Livers 1 Pluck
Pigs.	18	-	2 heads	2 plucks
Bullocks	148	-	4 lungs	8 livers 2 lungs 21 lbs.
Calves.	1	-	-	-

The following foodstuffs were condemned and disposed of by the Council at their refuse tip :-

Tinned Fruit 39
Tinned Meat 37
Tinned Vegetables 19
Other tinned foods 16
Meat (other than from
slaughterhouse) 52 lbs.

Milk Supply.

Four purveyors of milk are registered as distributors in the district. One license to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested", two licenses to use the designation "Pasteurised" and two licenses to use the designation "Sterilised" were issued during the year. One supplementary license in relation to the sale of Sterilised milk by a distributor from premises outside the Urban District was also issued.

Petroleum

The number of licensed premises in the year was 8.

HOUSING

(Article 31 of the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 and 1932)

- (a) Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation 1
- (b) Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority 4
- (c) Number of representations made to Local Authority with view to (1) the service of notices requiring the execution of works or (2) the making of demolition or closing orders.... nil
- (d) Number of notices served requiring the execution of works.. nil
- (e) Number of demolition orders made nil

- (f) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted 1
- (g) Number of houses demolished nil.

FACTORIES

Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health :-

Premises	No. on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sec.1,2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	5	8	Nil.	Nil.
(iii) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total	5	8	Nil.	Nil.

Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred.	
Want of Cleanliness (s.1.)	2	2	Nil	Nil.
Ineffective drainage of floors. (s.6.)	-	-	Nil	Nil
Total	2	2	Nil	Nil

I have the honour to be
 Mrs. Slater and Gentlemen,
 Your obedient Servant,
 M.P. NIGHTINGALE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

